EXHIBIT 27

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Page 1
 1
               IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                       DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
 2
     KIMBERLY COLE, ALAN COLE,
     JAMES MONICA, LINDA BOYD,
 3
     MICHAEL MCMAHAN, RAY
 4
     SMINKEY, JAMES MEDDRES,
     JUDY MEDDERS, ROBERT
     PEPERNO, SARAH PEPERNO, AND)
     KELLY MCCOY, ON BEHALF OF
     THEMSELVES AND ALL OTHERS
 6
     SIMILARLY SITUATED,
 7
               Plaintiffs,
 8
                                 )CASE NO. 13-CV-07871-FLW-TJB
               vs.
9
     NIBCO, INC.,
10
               Defendant.
                                 )
11
12
                    DEPOSITION OF RAY SMINKEY
13
                 TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANT
14
                ON December 20, 2016, at 8:30 a.m.
15
                        IN LAWTON, OKLAHOMA
16
17
                REPORTED BY DEBRA GARVER, CSR, RPR
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                     APPEARANCES
                                                                              STIPULATIONS
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                                                                    It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and between
    FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:
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                                                           3
                                                               the parties hereto that the deposition of RAY SMINKEY
     (via teleconference)
                                                               may be taken on behalf of the Defendant on December 20,
                                                           4
              RACHEL E. STEPHENS
                                                               2016, in Lawton, Oklahoma, by Debra Garver, Certified
5
              Attorney at Law
                                                               Shorthand Reporter within and for the State of Oklahoma,
              LATHROP & GAGE, LLP
6
              2345 Grand Blvd., Ste. 2400
                                                           7
                                                               pursuant to Notice.
              Kansas City, MO 64108
                                                                    It is further stipulated and agreed by and between
                                                           8
              (816)292-2000
                                                           9
                                                               the parties hereto that all objections except as to the
              rstephens@lathropgage.com
8
                                                          10
                                                               form of the question or the responsiveness of the answer
    FOR THE DEFENDANT:
                                                               thereto made are reserved until the time of trial, at
                                                          11
    (via teleconference)
                                                          12
                                                               which time they may be made with the same force and
10
              KYLE SHAMBERG
              Attorney at Law
                                                          13
                                                               effect as if made at the time of the taking of the
11
              Lite Depalma Greenberg, LLC
                                                          14
                                                               deposition.
              570 Broad Street, Suite 1202
12
              Newark, NJ 07102
                                                          15
                                                                    It is further stipulated and agreed by and between
              (973) 623-3000
                                                          16
                                                               the parties hereto, that the time of filing of this
13
              kshamberg@litedepalma.com
                                                          17
                                                               deposition is expressly waived.
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1
                        CONTENTS
                                                           1
                                                                                   RAY SMINKEY,
2
                                                  PAGE
                                                           2
                                                               being duly sworn to tell the truth, testified as
3
    3
                                                               follows:
4
    Stipulations
                                                           4
                                                                                   EXAMINATION
5
    RAY SMINKEY
                                                           5
                                                               BY MS. STEPHENS:
6
    Examination By Ms. Stephens . . . . . . . . 5
                                                           6
                                                                        Good morning, Mr. Sminkey. My name is Rachel
    7
                                                               Stephens. I'm an attorney representing NIBCO in this
    8
                                                               matter for the defendant.
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    9
                                                                    I'm going to be asking some questions today. And,
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                                                          10
                                                               again, because we're doing this as a phone deposition,
11
                                                          11
                                                               I'm just going to go over some things that might help us
12
                            EXHIBITS
                                           IDENTIFIED
                                                               have a more effective deposition today.
13
    NO.
                      DESCRIPTION
                                                          12
    EXHIBIT NUMBER 1 Notice . . . . . . . . . . . . 8
14
                                                          13
                                                                   Can you hear me okay?
15
    EXHIBIT NUMBER 2 Second Amendment Class . . . 8
                                                          14
                                                                   Α.
                      Action Complaint
                                                          15
                                                                    Q.
                                                                        Okay. And did you bring some documents today
16
                                                          16
                                                               with you?
    EXHIBIT NUMBER 3 Objections and Responses . . 8
                                                          17
                                                                        The documents I brought were what were FedExed
                                                                   Α.
17
                      to Interrogatories
                                                          18
                                                               to me.
18
                                                          19
                                                                        Okay. I didn't hear any of that.
                           * * * * *
19
                                                          20
                                                                        The documents I brought were what had been
2.0
                                                          21
                                                               FedExed to me, the three exhibits and the cover letter.
21
                                                          22
                                                                    (Off record briefly.)
22
                                                          23
                                                               BY MS. STEPHENS:
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                                                          24
                                                                        Good morning, Mr. Sminkey. Can you hear me
24
25
                                                          25
                                                               this time?
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Page 6 Page 8 1 Yes, ma'am. Can you hear me? 1 Another thing is if you do answer my question, 2 I can. Thank you. Let's just start again. 2 I'm going to assume that you understand it. So, again, 3 Can you state your name for the record? 3 please speak up. Okay? 4 Ray Sminkey. Α. Okay. 5 Will you spell your last name, please? 5 All right. Mr. Sminkey, you mentioned before 6 S-M-I-N-K-E-Y. 6 we took our little break that you brought some documents 7 Mr. Sminkey, where do you live? 7 today. Can you identify how many documents they are and 8 Elgin, Oklahoma. 8 just generally what they are? 9 9 And what's your current address there? (Exhibit Numbers 1, 2, and 3 marked and identified 10 1235 Red Rock Drive. 10 for the record.) Α. 11 And how long have you lived at that particular 11 THE WITNESS: They are the three exhibits plus ٥. location? the cover letter. Exhibit 1 being the 12 12 13 Since early 2010. 13 Defendant's Notice of Deposition of Ray Sminkey. Mr. Sminkey, have you ever had your deposition The second exhibit is the Second Amendment Class 14 14 Q. 15 taken before? 15 Action Complaint. 16 Α. 16 And the third one is the Plaintiff Ray Sminkey's 17 All right. I'm just going to go over some 17 Objections and Responses to Defendant NIBCO basics that will hopefully make today go easier. Incorporated's First Set of Interrogatories. 18 18 19 You've met the court reporter this morning, and 19 (BY MS. STEPHENS) Interrogatories, that's a 20 she's taking down, you know, everything that I say, the 20 tough one. 21 questions I ask and also your answers. And these 21 Okay. Thank you. And just to clarify for the 22 transcripts may be used later in this lawsuit or in 22 record, these are documents that I sent you, with the 23 court under certain circumstances. agreement of your counsel, that have been premarked as 23 24 Kyle may also interject at times and object to my 24 exhibits for today's deposition. Is that your 25 question. Generally speaking, even if he objects, you 25 understanding? Page 7 Page 9 still have to answer my question, except perhaps if he 1 1 A. Yes. 2 2 instructs you not to answer, for example. Okay. 3 One of the big things is that you and I try to talk 3 MS. STEPHENS: And, Kyle, that's your one at a time. I realize this is more difficult given 4 understanding as well? that we're on the phone, but I'll try to make it clear 5 MR. SHAMBERG: Yes, it is. when I'm done asking my question and I'll try to give MS. STEPHENS: Okay. Great. 6 7 7 you every opportunity to answer it. Does that sound (BY MS. STEPHENS) Mr. Sminkey, what did you do to prepare for today's deposition? 8 fair? 8 q 9 Talked with my lawyer yesterday and made sure Yes, ma'am. Α. Okay. The other thing, especially, again, 10 10 that everything was ready to go for today. 11 since we're on the phone, is we need verbal responses 11 Other than the documents you were sent by me, 12 today. So when you nod your head or shake your head, 12 have you reviewed any other documents? we're not there to see it and, also, it doesn't show up 13 13 Α. 14 on a transcript. 14 Did you discuss today with anyone other then 15 So I might follow up a question just to clarify 15 your attorney as you were preparing for your deposition? whether that was a yes or no if I don't quite understand 16 Α. Nο. 16 17 what answer you gave. Does that sound good? 17 All right. If you'll just look at the first 18 18 exhibit, which is -- which, again, you reference is the 19 Okay. Another thing I'm going to ask you to 19 notice of your deposition today, I'm mostly interested 20 do is, if you don't understand one of my questions, 20 in the first page. please tell me so. And I'll try to rephrase it or 21 21 And you see at the top there's a bunch of names, 22 clarify it in a way that makes sure that you understand 22 and do you see your name there at the top of the page? the question and that you understand what you're 23 It's what we call a caption. 24 24 answering. Does that sound okay? Α. Yes.

25

Q.

Okay. And do you recognize any of the other

25

A. Yes.

Page 10 Page 12 1 names of the plaintiffs listed there? 1 Q. Now, what lawyer in particular did you 2 2 contact? Α. No. 3 Do you know any of the other plaintiffs 3 Α. Mr. Joseph Sauder. ٥. 4 personally? Q. Okay. And you said you did some research. Did you do that research on the internet? 5 Α. No. 6 And, now, you see below there it says NIBCO, 6 Yes. Q. 7 Inc., defendants. Do you see that? 7 ٥. Okay. And how did you go about doing that 8 Α. 8 particular research? Yes. 9 Q. And, again, I'm an attorney and I represent 9 Did a couple Google searches for NIBCO piping NIBCO in this lawsuit. And do you understand that NIBCO or NIBCO tubing and then, you know, found that I wasn't 10 10 11 manufactures plumbing supplies? 11 the only one having problems with the pipes and found 12 Α. Yes. out there was a -- a lawsuit coming together. 12 13 Now, some other terms we might use today are 13 Okay. Do you recall what websites in PAC. Doug's the term "PEX" mean anything to you? 14 particular you found based on this Google search? 14 15 Α. Yes. 15 Α. 16 Okay. And what is PEX, to your understanding? 16 You just remember that you found Mr. Sauder's 17 PEX is a particular brand of piping. 17 name and contacted him? Okay. Now, you used the term "piping," and 18 18 Α. 19 this is another thing to clarify. I might use the term 19 Okay. Do you recall about when that was, the ٥. "piping" as well, or I might use the term "tubing," you 20 20 month and year? 21 know, we might change those a little bit, but do you 21 I want to say November of 2013. 22 understand that "tubing" and "piping" are essentially 22 Okay. Mr. Sminkey, where did you grow up? ٥. the same thing, at least in context of today's 23 What part of the country? 23 deposition? 24 24 Α. Pennsylvania. 25 Α. Yes. 25 Okay. And how did you get your way to Page 11 Page 13 Okay. And, now, you understand, sir, that you Oklahoma? 1 1 have sued NIBCO in a putative class action lawsuit? Do 2 Α. Military service. 3 you understand that? 3 Q. Okay. So when did you join the military? 4 Can you explain that one a little bit better, 4 In 1997. Α. 5 please? 5 ٥. Okay. And which branch did you serve? Sure. Do you understand that -- that 6 Q. 6 Α. Navy. 7 what's -- what plaintiffs are attempting to do in this Okay. Let's back up just a little bit. case is represent other class members in addition to 8 8 Did you graduate from high school? 9 themselves? 9 Yes. Α. 10 What year? 10 Α. 0. 11 Okay. And do you understand generally what 11 1997. allegations you have made against NIBCO? 12 12 Q. And then, upon graduation, did you enter the 13 military directly after that? 13 Α. Yes. 14 Okay. And what, generally speaking, is your 14 Α. 15 complaint against NIBCO in this case? 15 Q. Okay. Are you still actively serving in the 16 That, you know, for what had occurred at the 16 Navy? 17 house, that it gets -- you know, it gets fixed. And if 17 Α. need be, you know, the manufacturing process or what 18 18 After you served in the Navy, what did you do 19 else -- what caused the problem to be fixed. 19 after that? 20 Q. Okay. And how did you become involved in this 20 Went to work for the government. lawsuit? 21 Is that still what you're doing today, the 21 ٥. A. After -- after I had my issues, I had done 22 22 same job? some research and noticed that there was a lawsuit 23 23 Α. getting put together, and I contacted the lawyer and 24 Okay. And what is your current job? 24 Q. started doing the paperwork. 25 Α. Radar instructor.

Page 14 Page 16 1 Can you explain to me what that means? 1 Q. Okay. Does he run a company or is he a single 2 I teach the Army radar maintenance. 2 individual? 3 And is that similar to what you did when you 3 Α. I couldn't tell you. were in the Navy? 4 When you were buying the house from Mr. Hoffepauir, were you told what kind of plumbing was 5 Α. Yes. 5 in the house? 6 Okay. So you're no longer actively serving in 6 Q. 7 the Navy, but you instruct the Army regarding radar 7 Α. 8 maintenance. Is that accurate? 8 Had you ever heard of PEX plumbing before you had issues with the plumbing in the house? 9 Α. Yes. 9 10 Q. Okay. And how long have you been doing that? 10 Α. Yes. 11 Just shy of ten years. 11 Okay. Did you have a previous house with that Α. ٥. Is there a location down there? Is there a material or how did you already know about PEX? 12 12 I was talking to a couple friends of mine and 13 base in particular that you do this at? 13 14 Fort Sill. 14 they were talking about PEX piping. Α. 15 ٥. Okay. Right there near Lawton; is that 15 Just talking about it in general or what was 16 correct? 16 -- can you provide me a little more context? 17 Α. 17 It was just talking about it in general. Yes. Okay. When was that conversation? 18 0. Do you have any experience with construction? 18 19 Α. 19 Before I bought the house. 20 20 Okay. Did you ask Mr. Hoffepauir what kind of Q. Okay. What about plumbing? 21 Α. 21 plumbing there was in the house --22 The house that you have lived in since early 22 Α. Nο. 23 2010, was that a new house that was built? 23 -- before you bought it? Okay. 24 When did you first learn that your house had PEX 24 Α. 25 Okay. And did you help design or plan that 25 piping? Page 15 Page 17 house or was it something that you bought already 1 The night the first pipe burst. 1 2 2 designed? 0. Okay. And do you recall approximately what 3 Bought it already built. 3 day that was? Q. But you were the first occupant of that house? 4 Α. No. 5 Α. 5 When is the first time you discovered what Okay. Can you generally describe the house to brand you believed was installed in your home? 0. 6 me? For example, like how many stories, how many 7 7 The same time the first pipe got cut out, 8 bedrooms and bathrooms. 8 after it was -- the original repair. q Single story, three bedrooms, two bathrooms. 9 Is that the first you'd ever heard of NIBCO? Α. Q. Does it have a basement? 10 10 Α. 11 No. 11 Had you owned a home before you owned the home Α. Q. How about an attic? 12 in Elgin, Oklahoma? 12 Q. 13 13 Α. Α. 14 To your understanding, is there any plumbing 14 ٥. Okay. And where was that home located? 15 that runs through the attic or is it all underground and 15 Waltz Island, Virginia. through the walls? 16 Okay. Was that new construction or an older 16 0. 17 There's no plumbing in the attic. 17 home? 18 Okay. Who did you buy your house from in 18 Α. Older home. Q. 19 Elgin? 19 Do you know what kind of plumbing you had in 20 Jesse Hoffepauir. 20 that particular house in Virginia? Α. 21 21 Can you spell that last name, or attempt to? Α. No. 22 Α. H-O-F-F-E-P-A-I-R [sic]. 22 Q. Did you ever have any plumbing issues or leaks 23 Okay. And does Jesse Hoffepauir -- is he a 23 in that home? 24 24 homebuilder or what's the connection there? Α. 25 A. A homebuilder. 25 Q. Have you ever lived in or owned a home that's

Page 18 Page 20 1 had plumbing issues before the home in Elgin, Oklahoma? 1 Okay. Do you know who installed the plumbing 2 2 in your house in Elgin? Α. No. 3 Sir, if you would, refer to Exhibit 2, which 3 Α. All Star Plumbing. is the large document, the Second Amended Class Action 4 Okay. And how do you know that? Complaint. Do you see that? It was on the list of installers I got when I 5 5 Α. 6 Α. Yes. 6 bought the house. Okay. So when you bought the house, you were 7 ٥. Okay. I'm going to ask you please, sir, to 7 ٥. 8 turn to page 14. And do you see on page 14, your name 8 provided some information about, perhaps, people who 9 worked on the house during the construction? 9 at the top says Ray Sminkey and then it has a bunch of numbered paragraphs? 10 Α. 10 11 One second, please. 11 ٥. Okay. Do you still have that information? Α. 12 No problem. 12 0. Α. Not with me. 13 Okay. Yes. 13 But, in general, somewhere in your home or Sir, if you could review page 14, and then it 14 wherever you keep your records, you have that list? 14 15 continues on to page 15. Please review that little 15 Α. Yes. 16 section for me and then I'll ask some questions. Just 16 Does it just have the name of the company or 17 let me know when you're ready, okay? 17 do you recall whether it also named the person who 18 actually installed the plumbing? Okay. 18 19 (Brief pause.) 19 Α. Just the company. 20 20 Now, in paragraph 70, it says Plaintiff Okay. 21 Sir, do these paragraphs look familiar to you? 21 Sminkey's residential plumbing system was installed 22 Have you seen them before? 22 using NIBCO PEX tubing. Do you see that paragraph? 23 23 Α. Yes. Α. Yes. Okay. Do you believe you reviewed these 24 24 Okay. Again, you said previously the first 25 paragraphs before the complaint was filed in this case? 25 you'd heard of NIBCO was after the first week in your Page 19 Page 21 1 home. Is that correct? Α. Yes. 1 2 Okay. And do you believe you provided the 2 That is correct. 3 information that's contained in these paragraphs? 3 Okay. Do you know whether there are other NIBCO products installed other than tubing? Α. Yes. Okay. I wanted to start with paragraphs 68 5 5 I don't know. and 69. It has some information there about the Okay. Now, in paragraph 71, it says Plaintiff 6 7 construction of your home in Elgin, Oklahoma, and when 7 Sminkey hired a licensed professional contractor to 8 the plumbing was installed. 8 install the plumbing system in his home. Do you see 9 What is the basis of -- where did you get that 9 that paragraph? 10 10 information? Α. 11 That information -- I'm going to guess because 11 Okay. But you actually did not hire All Star probably came from the lawyer. Plumbing. That person was hired by the contractor of 12 12 Okay. So you're not -- you don't know when 13 your house; is that correct? 13 14 your house was built and when the plumbing was put in? 14 Α. Yes. 15 I knew it was built, put in before 2009. 15 Okay. And, again, the contractor was this 16 Okay. Now, if you look at paragraph 69, it 16 Jesse Hoffepauir? 17 says installation of a plumbing system was substantially 17 Α. Yes. completed before December 2008. Do you see that? 18 18 Okay. When you bought the house from Jesse 19 19 Hoffepauir or you were perhaps negotiating to buy the 20 Okay. Is that information that you knew or 20 house, were you given some sort of overall quote for the Q. 21 you know today? 21 house or were you given kind of a breakdown of how much 22 Α. I know it now. 22 each part cost and then how much they were going to 23 Okay. But you didn't know it until perhaps 23 charge you? 24 someone else did some research for you; is that correct? 24 MR. SHAMBERG: Object to the form.

25

You can answer, Ray.

25

Α.

That's correct.

Page 22 Page 24 THE WITNESS: Well, it was just the overall 1 Α. Yes. cost of the house. 2 2 Q. Okay. And then you have a bunch of equipment 3 (BY MS. STEPHENS) Was the list of the 3 and other things, and kind of in the middle of the contractors, which included All Star Plumbing, ever garage at the back there's a door that you can see the -- at least the water heater; is that true? provided to you before you bought the house or after you bought the house? 6 6 Yes. 7 A. After. 7 ٥. Okay. And then you said this particular leak 8 And do you know whether All Star Plumbing is a 8 that you observed in November of 2013 was coming off the top of the water heater; is that correct? 9 licensed professional contractor? 9 10 Α. I don't know. 10 Α. Yes. 11 And do you know who from All Star Plumbing 11 Okay. So the PEX tubing itself was connected installed the plumbing in your house? directly to the water heater -- I mean, with a fitting 12 13 13 and all that? Now, in paragraph 72, it says the installation 14 14 Α. It was connected to a copper pipe, which was Q. 15 of the plumbing system had been completed and that you 15 connected to the water heater. 16 moved into the house in February 2009. Is that true? 16 Okay. So the water heater was -- you know, it 17 Α. Yes. 17 stands, you know, however many feet tall. And off the 18 top of it, there's a copper pipe. And then connected to Okay. And the house in Elgin has been your 18 19 primary residence since then? 19 that copper pipe was a PEX piece of pipe; is that correct? 20 Α. 20 21 21 Okay. And who else lives in the home? Α. 2.2 My wife and children. 22 Okay. You said at that connection point was ٥. 23 23 Now, if we look at the next paragraph, where the leak was --24 paragraph 73, does that paragraph help refresh your 24 Α. It was --25 recollection of when the first leak occurred in the 25 -- between the copper and the -- yeah? Page 23 Page 25 plumbing in your house in Elgin? 1 Sorry. It was along that pipe. 1 2 Α. And when you say "along that pipe," like 3 Okay. And that date is specifically what day? 3 where -- okay, if we start at the -- if the copper pipe Q. is, you know, the lowest point -- the connection point November 5, 2013. Α. 5 Okay. Can you explain to me what you observed 5 between those two points, the pipe and the PEX, where -when you observed this water leak on November 5th, 2013? how many inches do you think up from that connection 6 6 7 Me and my wife were getting ready -- winding 7 point was the leak? 8 down for the day, and it sounded like it was raining 8 I can't recall. I know it wasn't on the outside. Walked into the garage and noticed that my 9 connection point itself. garage was becoming -- you know, getting wet. 10 Was it less than a foot or more than a foot? 10 11 When I went to look at -- go shut the water off, I 11 I don't remember. 12 noticed that the hose above the water heater had burst. How much is visible coming off that -- of the 12 Okay. When you say "burst," what do you mean? 13 pipe -- the PEX pipe itself, how much of it is visible 13 14 Like, was the pipe split or had it come out of its 14 before it disappears into the wall? 15 fitting? Can you describe specifically what you mean? 15 Say probably about 2-foot. 16 It had a hole in it and water come out. 16 Okay. So total --17 Q. All right. I want to just back up a little 17 MR. SHAMBERG: Sorry, did you mean now or at 18 bit. The water heater in your home is located in your 18 the time that that leak occurred? I don't know if 19 garage -- or off your garage; is that correct? 19 there's a difference, just to clarify. 20 That's correct. 20 MS. STEPHENS: That's a good question. That's 21 21 a good clarification. Thanks, Kyle. Okay. And so if I was looking at your garage -- like if I'm standing outside looking into your 22 22 (BY MS. STEPHENS) So let me ask my question garage with the garage door open, on the left-hand side 23 again, Mr. Sminkev. 24 there would be like a door that probably leads to the At the time of this leak in November 2013, is your 24

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answer the same, about 2 feet between the copper pipe

inside; is that correct?

Page 26 Page 28 and before the pipe -- the PEX pipe disappeared into the 1 MR. SHAMBERG: Rachel, if there's anything you 2 wall? end up needing to request, if you just send the request 2 3 Α. 3 to me in writing, I can work with Mr. Sminkey to get Yes. Q. Okay. So somewhere in that 2 feet is the leak 4 those things. that you observed in November 2013; is that correct? MS. STEPHENS: Will do. And I've been working 5 5 6 on one for the others, so I will probably combine them Yes. 6 7 ٥. Okay. And you said, again, it wasn't at the 7 8 connection point, it was somewhere within that range. 8 MR. SHAMBERG: Okay. 9 9 And you said there was a hole in the pipe and water was Q. (BY MS. STEPHENS) All right. So, Mr. Sminkey, coming out; is that correct? 10 back to the this November 5th, 2013, link, was it in the 10 11 Yes. 11 evening? Is that what I heard you say? Α. 12 Okay. What did you do upon observing that 12 Q. Α. Yes. 13 leak? 13 Okay. So you contacted your home warranty Shut the main off to the house. 14 14 company that evening? Α. 15 Q. Okay. And then what did you do next? 15 Α. Yes. 16 Α. Started cleaning water. 16 Okay. And what did they do in response? 17 Okay. And did you call a plumber at all? 17 They sent out a plumber to investigate and to 18 fix the problem. I got ahold of my home warranty company. 18 19 Okay. And who is your home warranty company? 19 Q. Do you know the name of the company or the 20 Α. American Home Shield. 20 plumber that they had? And was that the same home warranty company 21 21 22 you had back 2013 that you were referring to? 22 Do you know what that plumber did to fix the Q. 23 23 problem? Α. Do you still have a policy with American Home 24 Q. 24 Α. He replaced the pipe. 25 Shield? 25 So the pipe that was coming off the water Page 27 Page 29 1 heater was replaced with another length of PEX tubing? Α. Yes. 1 2 2 Q. Okay. And is it the same policy you had back Α. in 2013? 3 3 Q. Okay. Do you know what brand the plumber used Can you clarify that one a little bit? 4 for the replacement pipe? Α. 5 Sure. I mean, have you -- do you believe it's 5 Α. Nο. the same policy and that you've perhaps just been Is that the same pipe that is still in your 6 6 Q. 7 7 renewing it every year since you bought the house? home? 8 8 Α. Yes. Α. Yes. 9 Okay. And have you had that American Home 9 Okay. And just to clarify and make sure I'm ٥. 0. understanding, so the first leak you had, this plumber 10 Shield policy since you bought the house? 10 11 We -- pretty sure we picked it up a year after came out, looked at the problem, replaced the pipe. And that pipe that he put in is still coming off the water 12 we bought the house. 12 13 heater; is that correct? 13 Okay. Do you know the policy number Q. 14 currently? 14 Α. 15 15 Okay. And then that particular length of pipe 16 Okay. Do you have any documents at home or 16 disappears up into the ceiling or the wall? 17 that you can access perhaps online that would tell you 17 No, it was replaced to the wall. 18 the policy number? 18 Okay. The original pipe that was leaking, the 19 Α. Yes. 19 NIBCO PEX pipe, what color was it? 20 Okay. There's going to be some things, 20 Red. Α. Mr. Sminkey, that I might follow up with your counsel 21 21 And at the time this plumber came out to afterwards, and I -- sometime occasionally today I might 22 22 investigate and fix the problem, is that when you first note those, but I'm not asking you to go do that right 23 learned that it was a NIBCO pipe that was installed in 23 24 now. Just wanted you to be aware of that. Okay? 24 your home? 25 25 A. Okay. A. Yes.

Page 30 Page 32 1 Okay. Did the plumber tell you that or is 1 Α. No. that something you observed yourself? 2 What about the water that had leaked into the 2 ٥. 3 That is something I observed. 3 master bedroom, what did you do to clean up that? Okay. And what did you observe in particular 4 Pulled up the carpeting and the -- and dried -- cleaned it up and dried it out. 5 to learn that? 5 6 All right. And same question: Did you rent 6 The company marking on the side of the pipe. 7 Did you keep that particular pipe that had 7 any equipment or hire anyone to help you with that 8 been taken out of your system? 8 cleanup? 9 9 I don't remember. Α. No. 10 So that particular pipe related to the first 10 Did you have to throw away any items in your leak that was taken out, you're not sure what happened 11 master bedroom as a result of that water damage? 11 to it? You just don't remember? 12 12 13 Α. Correct. 13 Other than calling your home warranty company, Okay. Now, a part of your American Home 14 did you make any insurance claims on your policy? 14 Q. 15 Shield warranty, did you have to pay a deductible to the 15 Α. Nο. 16 16 Okay. So just to make sure I understand, the 17 Α. Yes. 17 first leak on November 5th, 2013, you had some water 18 damage in the garage and the master bedroom, and you Q. Okay. And do you recall how much that was? 18 19 Α. \$125. 19 kind of just let it air out and dry up. 20 20 Q. Do you pay that on the spot? And you had to throw away some items in the garage, 21 Α. 21 but you don't recall what those items were. 22 Okay. And do you know how much the plumber 22 Is that a general summary? ultimately charged for the work that he did at your 23 23 Yes. Α. house for that first leak? Okay. After this first leak on November 5th, 24 24 25 Α. No. 25 2013, and you had seen the pipe and seen the word NIBCO Page 31 Page 33 The home warranty covered the rest; is that on it, did you contact NIBCO? 1 1 correct? 2 2 Α. 3 Α. Yes. 3 Q. Did you research NIBCO at all at that time? Okay. Now, the water that had leaked, that 4 Α. No. 5 had just leaked into your garage? 5 Did the plumber who came out to investigate One more time, please? the issue and fix the leak, did you discuss with him at 6 7 7 Sure. So you had this first leak on all what he thought was the problem? 8 November 5th, 2013. The water that was leaking out of 8 I'm sure I did, but I can't remember --9 the pipe, did it all flow into your garage or where did 9 Do you recall at all what he might have told ٥. 10 10 it travel to? you? Sorry. 11 To the garage and the master bedroom. 11 Α. Α. Okay. Is the master bedroom, like, on the 12 12 After this first leak, did you research and other side of the wall from the water heater? 13 find Mr. Sauder, or did that happen later? 13 14 Α. Yes. 14 Α. Later. 15 Q. Okay. Now, what all did you do to clean up in 15 Okay. All right. If we're referring back to 16 Exhibit 2, which is the second amended complaint, do you 16 the garage? 17 Basically, vacuum the water, had to throw 17 see paragraph 74? 18 things away that were destroyed, and just dry out the 18 Α. 19 garage. 19 Okay. And it says, The following week, 20 MR. SHAMBERG: Object to the form. 20 Plaintiff Sminkey observed two additional water leaks in 21 (BY MS. STEPHENS) Okay. Did you rent the the same residential hot water line coming off the hot 21 22 equipment or hire anybody to help you with that? 22 water heater in Plaintiff Sminkey's garage. 23 23 Is that a general description of the next two leaks Α. 24 24 Q. Okay. Do you recall what items you had to in your home?

25

A. Yes.

25

throw away?

Page 34 Page 36 1 Okay. So the following week, did you observe 1 the middle of the piping? these two leaks at the same time or did they happen on 2 2 Α. Yes. 3 different days? 3 Do you recall whether the pipe had like a They occurred on different days. split in it or like a hole? Do you recall how many days apart? 5 5 Α. It was a split. What time of day did you observe this second 6 6 Α. Q. 7 ٥. Okay. All right. Well, let's start with the 7 leak? 8 second leak -- I mean, the second leak that you 8 Α. Afternoon. 9 9 observed. Q. And how did you become aware of this leak? 10 Where on that hot waterline coming off the heater 10 Was there water coming into the garage again? 11 did you observe that particular leak? 11 I think it was the pipe underneath the hot 12 Okay. What about the water going into the 12 13 water heater going into the main line. 13 master bedroom? Q. All right. As you recall, it was the pipe 14 14 Α. 15 under the water heater this time; is that correct? 15 Okay. So the second leak, you observed water 16 16 coming into the garage, and you found the leak coming 17 Okay. Now, what color was that pipe? 17 from the pipe underneath the water heater; is that Q. 18 correct? Α. Red. 18 19 Was that pipe connected directly to the water 19 Α. Yes. heater or was there, again, like a copper connection? 20 20 Q. What did you do after you observed this second 21 That pipe went to the wall behind the water 21 leak? 2.2 heater. 22 Shut the water off at the main and called Α. 23 American Home Shield. All right. I'm not sure if I understand what 23 24 Okay. And did they send out a plumber again? you're saying. So this -- this leak number 2 was in the Q. 25 pipe under the water heater and it was connected to the 25 Page 35 Page 37 water heater; is that correct? Was it the same company as the first time or a 1 1 Q. It wasn't directly connected to the water 2 2 different company? 3 heater. 3 Same company. Q. Okay. So where -- go ahead. 4 And do you recall what the plumber did to fix 5 Α. Trying to think of the easiest way to explain 5 the second leak? it over the phone. 6 They replaced a section of pipe. 7 7 The original pipe was on top, connected to a length Do you recall what color the replacement pipe 8 of pipe that goes down the drywall. And then the pipe 8 is? underneath coming from the drywall going into the 9 Red. Α. concrete, that was the second pipe that burst. 10 Do you believe that replacement tubing is 10 Q. 11 Okay. Now, and just so I understand, your 11 still in your home? water heater is up on kind of like a wooden platform; is 12 I believe so. 12 Α. that correct? 13 And was this PEX piping that he installed to 13 14 Α. Yes. fix the second leak, was it in that exposed area under 15 So if you look below that, you can see some of 15 the water heater or was it inside the wall? the piping underneath it; is that correct? 16 It was in the exposed area. 16 17 17 Okay. So, again, underneath that wooden Α. Yes. 18 Okay. Was the pipe that you observed leaking 18 platform where the water heater is, he was able to 19 for the second leak, was it curved or was it straight? 19 access that area and get in there and put replacement 2.0 I don't remember. 20 pipe in there. Is that your understanding? 21 21 Okay. Can you describe the leak to me that ٥. Α. Yes. 22 you observed? 22 Q. Did you, once again, pay the deductible, the 23 The same type of leak that happened in the 23 \$125? Α. 24 first. 24 Α. 25 25 So it wasn't at a connection point, it was in Q. You didn't have to pay the deductible the

Page 38 Page 40 1 second time? 1 In the evening. 2 2 And where were you in the house when you heard Α. N_{Ω} 3 Okay. And why is that, do you know? 3 this happen? My understanding, it was within 30 days of the 4 Α. In one of the bedrooms. 5 And did you again contact American Home first pipe being burst. Q. 6 Shield? 6 Okay. Do you know what brand -- did the 7 replacement pipe -- was that once again a PEX material? 7 Α. Yes. 8 8 Okay. And where was the third leak? Α. 9 9 Q. Okay. Do you know what brand it was, or is? Inside the drywall. 10 10 Q. Inside the drywall in what part of the house? Α. 11 What, if any, property in your home was 11 Behind the water heater. damaged as a result of this second leak? Is that the wall that separates the water 12 12 13 13 heater and the master bedroom? But you just maybe had to let some stuff dry 14 Yes. 14 Α. Q. 15 out a little bit, but other than that you didn't have to 15 ٥. And did the plumber come out that same evening 16 throw anything away? 16 to fix leak number 3? 17 A. As far as I remember, yes. 17 Α. No. 18 Q. Okay. Do you know what happened to the pipe 18 Q. Okay. How about the next day? 19 that the plumber took out of your home when he fixed the 19 Α. 20 second leak? 20 So you shut the water off and the plumber came 21 Α. 21 the next day to fix it; is that correct? 22 Do you believe he kept it or do you believe 22 It was either the next day or the day after. you -- it was retained by the plumber? I remember that they didn't come out directly that 23 23 24 Α. I don't remember. 24 evening. 25 Okay. After the second leak, did you also 25 Okay. On the first two leaks, they came out Page 39 Page 41 observe that pipe and did you see the word "NIBCO" on the same day; is that correct? 1 that as well? 2 Within 24 hours. Α. 3 Α. Yes. 3 Okay. Great. Okay. And after observing that, did you 4 Was it the same company, the same plumber, that 5 contact NIBCO at all? 5 came out to fix leak number 3 as the first two leaks? б Α. No. Α. 7 7 Did you do any research regarding NIBCO tubing Q. Do you recall whether it was the same actual at that point? 8 8 plumber? q Yeah. 9 I don't recall. Α. Α. Okay. So following the second leak, you 10 Was it a man each time? 10 believe that's when you did the research that you 11 Α. Yes. 11 mentioned to me earlier and you found Mr. Sauder's name? 12 Okay. And you said this was inside the dry 12 13 wall, the third leak. How did the plumber fix leak 13 Α. 14 Okay. Now, paragraph 74 says there were two 14 number 3? 15 additional water leaks. So we just discussed leak 15 A. Replaced the pipe that went from the 16 number 2, and then I guess a few days later -- you're connection -- from the original connection point at the 16 17 not totally sure how many days later -- there was a 17 top of the drywall to the bottom of the drywall. He third leak; is that correct? replaced the pipe all the way -- he replaced the length 18 18 19 19 of pipe and the dry wall. 20 Q. And can you describe to me how you observed or 20 Q. So they have to cut into the wall to do that? discovered the leak number 3? 21 21 Α. 22 I heard the pipe burst in the garage and went 22 Q. The pipe that was leaking, do you recall what out and shut the water off. 23 color it was? 23 24 24 What time of day did this -- did you hear this Α. 25 25 pipe burst? Q. And the length that was replaced, it went the

Page 42 Page 44 height of the wall; is that what you recall? However --1 repainting; is that correct? 2 8 feet or whatever how tall that is? 2 New patch where they had cut out. 3 Say, approximately about 6-foot. 3 Okay. And was that on the map to bedroom Okay. So the length of pipe that was removed 4 side? was about 6 feet and wrecked; is that correct? 5 Α. No. 6 Yes. 6 Okay. So that was on the water heater side? Q. 7 0. Okay. And where in that 6-foot span do you 7 Α. 8 recall the leak being? 8 Did that leak number 3, other than the wall 9 9 I don't remember. itself that had to be cut open for the repair, was there Okay. Was it in the middle or was it closer any other damage to your home? 10 10 to a connection point? 11 Just the wet insulation that we had to dry 11 I don't remember. 12 12 Α. out. 13 Did you observe at all the leak? Like, for 13 You didn't have to replace any, you just had instance, was there a split in the pipe or a hole in the to let it dry out before you could maybe put the wall 14 14 15 pipe? 15 back together? 16 A. I don't remember. 16 17 Q. But you recall hearing the burst itself; is 17 For these three leaks that we've talked about that correct? so far, other than the original deductible that you paid 18 18 19 Α. 19 to the plumber, did you incur any out-of-pocket experiences related to those leaks? 20 Q. Did you have to pay the plumber a deductible 20 21 for this leak? 21 Not that I remember. 2.2 Α. Nο. 22 And you don't recall any of the property in 23 Q. And for the same reason you believe that you 23 your garage that you might have had to throw out? You said previously, that it was within the same 30 days? don't recall what you had to throw out? 24 24 25 Yes. 25 No. Α. Α. Page 43 Page 45 Okay. Did you once again observe the word So at this point we're basically in 1 1 "NIBCO" on the pipe that was removed from your house? November 2013, mid November. After leak number 3, did 2 2 3 Yes. 3 you have -- have you had any other leaks in the plumbing Okay. Do you know what happened to that in your house? 5 6-foot span that was removed? 5 Α. I think that span had got sent off to 6 Sir, could you look at Exhibit 2 and flip the 6 7 Mr. Sauder's experts. 7 page to page 15, please. 8 Okay. After leak number 3, did you contact 8 Okay. ٥. Α. 9 NIBCO? 9 Can you look at paragraph 76, that second 10 sentence. It mentions that -- it says that the drywall 10 Α. 11 Have you ever contacted NIBCO regarding leaks and insulation were soaked and replaced as a result of a in your house? 12 12 water leak, and some household goods that were stored in 13 13 Α. the garage needed to be replaced. Do you see that 14 So the plumber came out, replaced that pipe. 14 sentence? 15 Did the plumber use PEX tubing again? 15 16 Α. Yes. 16 And that's basically what we just talked 17 Okay. And do you know what color the new pipe 17 about. You said you had to do some drywall replacement, ٥. 18 was, or is? 18 you had to let the insulation dry out a little bit; is 19 Α. 19 that correct? 20 Do you know what brand it is? 20 Α. Q. 21 21 Now, did you actually replace any household Α. 22 Q. After the plumber did that repair, who 22 goods that you recall or did you just throw them away? repaired the wall? 23 They were thrown away. 23 24 I did. 24 Okay. Based on these three leaks, other than Α. 25 25 making, you know, a claim with your home warranty So you put up new drywall, maybe did some

Page 46 Page 48 company, American Home Shield, did you make any 1 kind of website you found? 2 insurance claims under your home policy? 2 Α. No. 3 Α. 3 MS. STEPHENS: All right. Kyle, I'm going to No. Q. This leak number 3, you said, was running up 4 take a quick break, if you don't mind. Maybe we can come back at 10:00 and resume. Is that okay? the wall. Do you know, was that particular pipe 5 MR. SHAMBERG: Ten minutes, yeah, that's fine. connected to the water heater or was it further down in 6 6 7 the system? 7 (Off record briefly.) It was -- it wasn't the pipe directly to the 8 BY MS. STEPHENS: 9 water heater. It was the secondary pipe off the water 9 Q. Okay. Mr. Sminkey, we're back on the record. 10 heater. Do you understand you're still under oath, sir? 10 11 Q. Okay. So the first pipe comes off the top of 11 the water heater and then there's maybe a connection 12 Okay. Could you please pull Exhibit No. 3 in 12 13 point. And that pipe related to the third leak is 13 front of you. It's the interrogatory responses. connected to that first connection point? 14 14 Α. Okay. 15 Α. Yes. 15 ٥. Now, do you recognize this particular 16 Do you know whether any of the fittings in 16 document? 17 your home were replaced when leaks 1, 2, or 3 were 17 Α. Yes. worked on by the plumber? 18 18 Okay. Do you believe you reviewed -- like you 19 Α. I don't know. 19 said earlier, you reviewed this as part of your Do you know what brand of fittings were preparation with your counsel; is that correct? 20 20 21 installed in your home originally? 21 2.2 A. No. 22 Okay. And do you also recall providing some ٥. 23 23 information that ended up in this particular document on Are you complaining in this lawsuit about any issues with the fittings in your home? 24 24 your responses? 25 I don't think so. 25 Α. Yes. Page 49 Page 47 But your particular complaint, you believe, is Okay. And if you'd look to the last page, 1 1 just solely with the tubing or the piping that you sir, there's a verification. And you see your signature 2 3 believe is manufactured by NIBCO; is that right? 3 there on the last page? MR. SHAMBERG: Objection. Calls for legal 4 4 Α. Yes. 5 conclusion. 5 ٥. Okay. And that was dated October 29, 2015; is Go ahead, Ray. that correct? 6 6 7 7 THE WITNESS: I do. Α. Correct. (BY MS. STEPHENS) When you were doing your 8 8 Okay. Do you know -- since you verified these 9 internet research, did you go to the NIBCO website at 9 responses, do you believe you have learned any new 10 information that is not included in these responses? 10 all? 11 I don't remember. 11 Α. No. Α. 12 Okay. So this -- these responses remain true 12 Do you know whether NIBCO's products have a 13 13 warranty? and accurate, to the best of your knowledge? 14 Α. I don't remember. 14 Α. Yes. 15 So you don't know whether you've ever looked 15 Okay. Going back, Mr. Sminkey, to when you at the NIBCO warranty and, in particular, the PEX were considering purchasing this house in Elgin, were 16 16 17 warranty before? 17 you provided any information regarding what kind of plumbing was in the house before you bought it? 18 A. 18 19 Do you recall ever seeing any documents 19 20 distributed by NIBCO, for example, like a catalog or 20 Q. Was the plumbing a factor in the home purchase installation manual or anything like that? 21 at all? 21 22 Α. No. 22 Α. 23 When you went online and you found 23 Do you know where the plumbing that was Mr. Sauder's name, were you, like, on a message board or 24 installed in your home, in particular the PEX tubing, 24 a blog or something like that, or do you recall what 25 was purchased?

Page 50 Page 52 1 Α. No. 1 Did someone suggest that you add one? 2 2 I don't remember. Do you know who purchased it? Q. Α. 3 3 And you said mid 2014, so you think sometime Α. 4 Q. And you believe that All Star Plumbing was the 4 in the spring or summer of mid 2014 you added the company that installed it; is that correct? expansion tank? 5 5 6 Yes. 6 Α. Yes. 7 ٥. Have you ever contacted All Star Plumbing 7 And where is the expansion tank located, let's 8 regarding the work they did in your home? 8 say, for instance, in relation to the water heater? 9 About 2-foot before the cold inlet side of the 9 10 When you had your discussion with your 10 water heater. 11 friends, before you bought the house, about PEX tubing, 11 So if we're looking at the water heater did you have a positive or negative view of PEX at all closet, it's not actually in that closet, it's somewhere 12 12 13 or was it just something you were talking about in 13 to left of it? 14 general? 14 Α. One more time? You broke up a little bit 15 Α. Just general discussion. 15 there. 16 Did either you or your friends have any leaks 16 Apology. So if we're looking at the water 17 at this point involving PEX tubing? 17 heater closet -- again, the water heater is up on a 18 I don't think so. 18 wooden platform in that closet. Q. Now, in this lawsuit, Mr. Sminkey, could you 19 19 Now, could you describe to me where expansion tank describe to me what you are seeking from NIBCO? 20 is, like left to right, if we looking directly at the 20 21 Just -- you know, kind of just to make sure 21 water heater? 22 that this kind of stuff doesn't continue to happen and 22 Α. Off to the right. get what happened repaired. You know, essentially, 23 Okay. And where did you purchase that 23 ٥. if -- you know, if it's found out that I have to replace 24 expansion tank? the plumbing in the entire house, that the plumbing gets 25 I don't remember. Page 51 Page 53 1 replaced. Did you get it at like a hardware store or a 1 0. 2 Now, to be clear, you haven't any leaks since 2 plumber? 3 3 these three in November of 2013; is that correct? Hardware store. Α. Α. Correct. 4 Q. Do you know what brand it is? 5 Okay. Have you gotten an estimate or asked 5 Α. anyone what it might cost to replumb your entire house? Have you ever installed an expansion tank 6 6 0. 7 7 before? 8 And you're not sure whether you need that or 8 Α. not, you just want to know, if that needs to be done, 9 The piping connected to the expansion tank, is 9 Q. that's what you would be seeking in this lawsuit. Is it PEX? 10 10 11 that what you're saying? 11 Yes. 12 12 Is it NIBCO PEX? Α. Q. 13 13 Do you know whether the plumbing in your house Α. 14 has an expansion tank? 14 Q. Do you know what brand that piping is? 15 One more time, please? 15 16 Sure. Does the plumbing that's in your home 16 What about the fittings, are those also 0. 17 have an expansion tank? 17 SharkBite? 18 Α. It does now. 18 Α. 19 It does now. And when was that put in? 19 And you installed all of those -- the piping 20 Mid 2014. 20 and the fittings as well -- when you did the expansion Α. 21 And who installed that? 21 tank? ٥. 22 Α. 22 Α. 23 Why did you put an expansion tank into your 23 Did you use crimp rings or how did you connect 24 24 the fittings to the piping? plumbing system? 25 I don't remember. 25 They're self-connection fittings? Α.

Page 54 Page 56 Like push fittings or something like that? 1 1 And the water that comes to your house, does 2 2 that come from Elgin's system? Yes. Α. 3 3 Okay. Are they metal or plastic? Α. ٥. 4 4 ٥. Does the water softener connect to both the And did you buy that stuff at the same place hot and cold lines to your house? 5 5 you bought the expansion tank? 6 6 Just the cold line. 7 Α. Yes. 7 And where -- again, if we're looking at the 8 Had you ever installed plumbing before doing 8 water heater, where is the water softener in your this particular work? plumbing system? 9 9 10 Α. 10 Just to the right of the hot water heater. No. 11 Did anybody help you do this? 11 So in same area as the expansion tank, ٥. ٥. 12 generally? Α. 12 13 Do you believe your plumbing system has a 13 Α. pressure-reducing valve? 14 Can you see the water heater and the expansion 14 Q. 15 Α. I don't know. 15 tank in the closet or are they behind a wall? 16 Q. Have you ever heard of something like that 16 One more time, please. 17 before? 17 Sure. Can you see -- if you're in the water 18 heater closet area, can you physically see the expansion Α. 18 19 Okay. Do you have an understanding of what a 19 tank and that water softener or are they behind a wall? ٥. They're on the other side of the wall. 20 pressure valve does? 20 21 21 And you can only access those now if you cut 22 What do you understand that to do? 22 open the wall? Is that correct? ٥. 23 Monitors -- or not necessarily monitors, but 23 Α. No. 24 keeps the output pressure at a constant or below a set 24 Q. Okay. So where can you access the softener 25 pressure. 25 and the expansion tank? Page 55 Page 57 1 And you said you're not sure whether your 1 The water heater is in a closet in the garage. house has one or not; is that correct? The water softener and the expansion tank are to the 3 That's correct. 3 right of that closet in the open in the garage. What about, does your house have a circulation 4 Q. Okay. So they're in the exposed part of the 5 tank or a recirculation system? 5 garage? б Α. Α. Yes. 7 7 What about a water softener? Other than the three leaks that we've 8 8 Α. discussed and then these additions to your plumbing 9 Okay. And where is the water softener -- or 9 system, have you done any other work to the plumbing excuse me. Is the water softener original to the house? 10 system in your home? 10 11 Α. 11 Α. No. 12 When was the water softener installed? 12 ٥. Before the three leaks occurred in 13 13 November 2013, had you ever had reason to call a plumber Α. 14 Q. Did you install it at the same time you 14 to come out to this house? 15 installed the expansion tank? 15 16 Within a couple months of each other. 16 Can you describe that instance, or is there ٥. 17 Okay. Was the water softener installed before 17 more than one of those? or after the expansion tank was installed? 18 It was a crushed sewer line on the city side. 18 19 After. 19 And can you say that again? A what? A 20 And who installed the water softener in your 20 crushed sewer line? ٥. 21 21 home? A crushed sewer line going to the city main. 22 And how did that sewer line become crushed? 22 Α. 23 And why did you add a water softener to your 23 A dump truck ran over it. 24 24 That would probably do it. system? 25 25 When did that occur? Α. Because the town has hard water.

Page 58 Page 60 1 2010, 2011 maybe. I don't remember. 1 Exhibit 2 again, which is the second amended complaint. 2 And you had a plumber come out and fix that 2 If you could please turn to page 45. And just let me 3 sewer line. But did the city pay for it or somebody 3 know when you are there, please. 4 else pay for it? 4 Α. Okay. 5 5 A. The -- I'm not sure who paid for it. I know I Q. Okay. And do you see paragraph 226? б 6 did not pay for it. Yes. Α. 7 ٥. It wasn't you? 7 ٥. And, in particular, I'm referring to the part 8 Α. Correct. 8 after the number 2 where it says, NIBCO failed to provide Mr. Sminkey and other class members with 9 All right. Other than that particular 9 Q. instance, did you have any plumber -- work done to the 10 adequate and sufficient warnings regarding the known and 10 11 plumbing system or related to your plumbing system done 11 foreseeable risks and dangers inherent in NIBCO PEX at your house? 12 products. 12 13 Α. 13 Do you see that allegation? 14 14 Q. I believe you have a -- do you have a Jacuzzi Α. Yes. 15 tub in your house? 15 Okay. At the time that you bought your house 16 Α. 16 in Elgin, Oklahoma, isn't it true that you were not 17 Is that original to the house? 17 aware that NIBCO PEX products were in your house? Q. 18 18 Α. Α. 19 Have you ever had your water heater serviced? 19 ٥. So if there had been a warning issued by NIBCO ٥. regarding its PEX products, you wouldn't have known 20 Α. What do you mean? 20 21 Well, have you ever had anyone come out and 21 whether that affected you or not? 22 service your water heater, take a look at it, inspect 22 One more time, please. Α. 23 23 it, things like that? Okay. Well, let's say that NIBCO had provided 24 a warning regarding its NIBCO PEX products. For 24 A. No. 25 And the water heater in your home, is that the 25 instance, let's say NIBCO had issued a warning that its Page 59 Page 61 original water heater? PEX tubing could prematurely fail. 1 1 2 If that warning had been issued, you wouldn't know 2 Α. 3 Have you ever adjusted the settings on that 3 whether that would have affected you when you bought the Q. water heater; you, yourself? 4 house; is that true? 4 5 Α. 5 What I would have known? So whatever settings the water heater was set Well, you didn't know NIBCO PEX products were 0. 6 0. 7 7 to when you originally bought the house, you believe in your house, did you? 8 8 those are the same settings? Α. Correct. q 9 Okay. So let's say NIBCO put that warning on Α. Yes. MS. STEPHENS: I'm just taking a moment to 10 their website, for instance. Would you have been aware 10 11 look over some notes. Just bear with me, everyone. 11 of that? 12 (Brief pause.) 12 Α. No. (BY MS. STEPHENS) Mr. Sminkey, since the leaks 13 Let's say that warning had been put on the 13 14 in your home, have you had any discussions with anyone 14 pipe itself. You wouldn't have seen that before you 15 else who's had a similar problem in their house? 15 bought the house, would you? 16 Α. Nο. 16 Α. No. 17 Do you know whether the other houses in your 17 And as part of the materials provided to you 18 neighborhood were built by the same homebuilder or were 18 by the homebuilder, it just names a plumber, but you 19 they built by someone else? 19 never spoke to that plumber before you bought the house 20 I think they were all built by somebody else. 20 or after; is that correct? 21 21 Okay. And, once again, the PEX -- all the A. Correct. plumbing was installed already before you bought the 22 22 MS. STEPHENS: Kyle, I don't have any more 23 house; correct? 23 questions. 24 24 Α. Yes. MR. SHAMBERG: Okay. Just give me one second 25 25 Mr. Sminkey, I'm going to refer you to to look at my notes here too.

	Page 62			Page 64
1	(Brief pause.)	1	CORRECTION SHEET	
2	MR. SHAMBERG: Okay. I don't have any	2	Witness: RAY SMINKEY	
3	questions.		Reporter: Debra Garver, RPR	
4	MS. STEPHENS: I assume he'll read and sign?	3	Attorney: RACHEL STEPHENS	
5			Date: December 20, 2016	
_		4	OA: KYLE SHAMBERG	
6	MS. STEPHENS: Debra, I usually do an Etran	5	CASE: COLE, et al. vs. NIBCO, INC.	
7	with the exhibits attached.	6	PAGE LINE CORRECTION/Reason	
8	Kyle, do you want anything different?	7		
9	MR. SHAMBERG: Yeah, just the Etran, standard	8		
10	delivery with scanned exhibits is fine.	9		
11	(End of Deposition at 10:26 a.m.)	10		
12	(Mid of Deposition de 10-20 d.m.)	11		
		12		
13				
14		13		
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25		25		
_	Page 63	_		Page 65
1	J U R A T	1	COUNTY OF OKLAHOMA)	
2	T DAY CATAVANA de le cole cole cole cole cole cole cole	2) SS	
3	I, RAY SMINKEY, do hereby state under oath that I	3	STATE OF OKLAHOMA)	
4	have read the above and foregoing deposition in its	4		
5	entirety and that the same is a full, true and correct	5	CERTIFICATE	
6	transcription of my testimony so given at said time and	6	I, DEBRA GARVER, a certified shorthand report	ter
7	place.	7	within and for the State of Oklahoma, certify that	ıt:
8		8	RAY SMINKEY was by me sworn to testify the truth	that
	With correctionsNo corrections	9	the deposition was taken by me in stenotype and	
9			the deposition was taken by me in stemotype and	
10		-		oina is
1		10	thereafter transcribed by computer and the forego	
11		10	thereafter transcribed by computer and the forego	the
	RAY SMINKEY	10 11 12	thereafter transcribed by computer and the forego a true and correct transcript of the testimony of witness; that the deposition was taken on December	the r 20,
12	RAY SMINKEY	10 11 12 13	thereafter transcribed by computer and the foregonal true and correct transcript of the testimony of witness; that the deposition was taken on December 2016, in Lawton, Oklahoma; that I am not an attor	the r 20, ney for
12 13		10 11 12 13 14	thereafter transcribed by computer and the foregonal true and correct transcript of the testimony of witness; that the deposition was taken on December 2016, in Lawton, Oklahoma; that I am not an attomor a relative of any party, or otherwise interests	the r 20, ney for
12 13 14	Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public	10 11 12 13	thereafter transcribed by computer and the foregonal true and correct transcript of the testimony of witness; that the deposition was taken on December 2016, in Lawton, Oklahoma; that I am not an attor	the r 20, ney for
12 13 14 15	Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State of Oklahoma by said witness, RAY	10 11 12 13 14	thereafter transcribed by computer and the foregonal true and correct transcript of the testimony of witness; that the deposition was taken on December 2016, in Lawton, Oklahoma; that I am not an attomor a relative of any party, or otherwise interests	the r 20, rney for led in
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RAY SMINKEY

December 20, 2016
Index: \$125..called

	57:13		40:5 46:1	believed 17:6
Exhibits	2014 51:20 52:3,4	8	answering 7:24	big 7:3
EX 0001 R.	55:13	8 42:2	answers 6:21	bit 10:21 11:4 13:7
Sminkey 1220	2015 49:5	0 42.2	Apology 52:16	23:18 27:4 38:15 45:18 52:14
16 3:14 8:12	226 60:5	Α	approximately	blog 47:25
EX 0002 R.	24 41:2		17:2 42:3	board 47:24
Sminkey 1220	29 49:5	access 27:17	area 37:14,16,19 56:11,18	bottom 41:17
16 3:15 18:3 33:16 45:6 60:1	3	37:19 56:21,24 accurate 14:8	Army 14:2,7	bought 15:1,3
EX 0003 R.		49:13	assume 8:2 62:4	16:19,23 20:6,7
Sminkey 1220	3 8:9 39:21 40:16	action 8:15 11:2	attached 62:7	21:18 22:5,6 27:7, 10,12 49:18 50:11
16 3:16 48:12	41:5,14 43:8 44:8 45:2 46:4,17 48:12	18:4	attempt 15:21	54:6 59:7,22 60:15
	30 38:4 42:24	actively 13:15 14:6	attempting 11:7	61:3,15,19 branch 13:5
\$		actual 41:7	attic 15:12,15,17	brand 10:17 17:6
\$125 30:19 37:23	4	add 52:1 55:23	attorney 5:7 9:15	29:3 38:6,9 43:20 46:20 53:4,14
1	45 60:2	added 52:4	aware 27:24 36:9	break 8:6 48:4
		addition 11:8	60:17 61:10	breakdown
1 8:9,12 46:17	5	additional 33:20 39:15		21:21
10:00 48:5	5 23:4	additions 57:8	B	briefly 5:22 48:7
1235 6:10	5th 23:6 28:10 31:8	address 6:9	back 13:7 23:17	bring 5:15
14 18:8,14	32:17,24	adequate 60:10	24:4 26:22 27:2 28:10 33:15 44:15	broke 52:14
15 18:15 45:7		adjusted 59:3	48:5,9 49:15	brought 5:17,20 8:6
1997 13:4,11	6	affected 60:21	base 14:13	built 14:23 15:3
2	6 42:5	61:3 Afternoon 36:8	based 12:14 45:24	19:14,15 59:18,19, 20
	6-foot 42:3,7 43:5	agreement 8:23	basement 15:10	bunch 9:21 18:9
2 8:9 18:3 25:25	68 19:5	ahead 35:4 47:6	basically 31:17	24:2
26:4 33:16 34:24 39:16 45:6 46:17	69 19:6,16	ahold 26:18	45:1,16	burst 17:1 23:12, 13 35:10 38:5
60:1,8	7	air 32:19	basics 6:18	39:22,25 42:17
2-foot 25:15 52:9		allegation 60:13	basis 19:9	buy 15:18 21:19
2008 19:18	70 20:20	allegations	bathrooms 15:8,9	54:5
2009 19:15 22:16	71 21:6	11:12	bear 59:11	buying 16:4
2010 6:13 14:23 58:1	72 22:14	amended 18:4 33:16 60:1	bedroom 31:11,	
2011 58:1	73 22:24	Amendment	12 32:3,11,18 36:13	
2013 12:21 23:4,6	74 33:17 39:14	8:14	40:13 44:3	call 9:23 26:17
24:8 25:24 26:5,22	76 45:9	American 26:20,	bedrooms 15:8, 9 40:4	57:13
27:3 28:10 31:8 32:17,25 45:2 51:3		24 27:9 30:14 36:23	3 10.1	called 36:22
22,25 15.2 51.5				

December 20, 2016 Index: calling..essentially

calling 32:13 Calls 47:4 caption 9:23 carpeting 32:4 **case** 11:8,15 18:25 catalog 47:20 **caused** 11:19 ceiling 29:16 change 10:21 **charge** 21:23 charged 30:23 children 22:22 circulation 55:4 circumstances 6:23 **City** 57:18,21 58:3 **claim** 45:25 **claims** 32:14 46:2 clarification 25:21 **clarify** 7:15,22 8:21 10:19 25:19 27:4 29:9 **class** 8:14 11:2,8 18:4 60:9 clean 31:15 32:3 cleaned 32:5 cleaning 26:16 cleanup 32:8 **clear** 7:5 51:2 closer 42:10 **closet** 52:12,17, 18 56:15,18 57:1,3 **cold** 52:9 56:5,6 **color** 29:19 34:17

37:7 41:23 43:17

combine 28:6

company 16:1

20:16,19 26:18,19,

21 28:14,19 30:6 32:13 37:1,2,3 41:4 46:1 50:5

complaining 46:23

complaint 8:15 11:15 18:5,25 33:16 47:1 60:1

completed 19:18 22:15

conclusion 47:5

concrete 35:10 connect 53:23 56:4

connected

24:11,14,15,18 34:19,25 35:2,7 46:6,14 53:9

connection

15:24 24:22 25:4,6, 9 26:8 34:20 35:25 41:16 42:11 46:12,

constant 54:24 construction

14:18 17:16 19:7 20:9

contact 12:2 33:1 39:5 40:5 43:8

contacted 11:24 12:17 28:13 43:11 50:7

contained 19:3

context 10:23 16:16

continue 50:22 continues 18:15

contractor 21:7, 12,15 22:9

contractors 22:4

conversation

16:18

copper 24:14,18, 19,25 25:3,25 34:20

correct 14:16 19:24,25 21:1,2,13 23:19,20,25 24:9,20 26:5,10 29:13 30:13 31:2 34:15 35:1,13, 16 36:18 39:18 40:21 41:1 42:5,18 44:1 45:19 48:20 49:6,7 50:5 51:3,4 55:2,3 56:22 58:8 59:23 61:8,20,21

cost 21:22 22:2 51:6

counsel 8:23 27:21 48:20

country 12:23 couple 12:9 16:13 55:16

court 6:19,23 cover 5:21 8:12

covered 31:1 **crimp** 53:23

crushed 57:18, 20,21,22

current 6:9 13:24

curved 35:19

Cut 17:7 41:20 44:2,9 56:21

D

damage 32:11,18

damaged 38:12 dangers 60:11

date 23:3

dated 49:5

day 17:3 23:3,8 36:6 39:24 40:18, 21.22 41:1

days 34:3,4,5 38:4 39:16,17 42:24

Debra 62:6

December 19:18 deductible

30:15 37:22.25 42:20 44:18

defendant 5:8 8:17

Defendant's 8:13

defendants 10:7

delivery 62:10 deposition

5:10,12 6:14 8:13, 24 9:8,15,19 10:24

describe 15:6 23:15 35:21 39:20 50:20 52:19 57:16

description 33:23

design 14:25 designed 15:2 destroyed 31:18 difference 25:19

difficult 7:4 directly 13:13 24:12 34:19 35:2 40:23 46:8 52:20

disappeared 26:1

disappears 25:14 29:16

discovered 17:5 39:21

discuss 9:14 33:6

discussed 39:15 57:8

discussion 50:10,15

discussions 59:14

distributed

47:20

document 18:4 48:16.23

documents

5:15,17,20 8:6,7,22 9:11,12 27:16 47:19

door 23:23,24 24:4

Doug's 10:14

dried 32:5

Drive 6:10

dry 31:18 32:19 38:14 41:12,19 44:11,14 45:18

drywall 35:8,9 40:9,10 41:17 43:25 45:10.17

duly 5:2 dump 57:23

Ε

earlier 39:12 48:19

early 6:13 14:22

easier 6:18 easiest 35:5

effective 5:12

Elgin 6:8 15:19 17:12 18:1 19:7 20:2 22:18 23:1 49:16 60:16

Elgin's 56:2

end 28:2

ended 48:23

enter 13:12

entire 50:25 51:6

equipment 24:2 31:22 32:7

essentially

10:22 50:23

December 20, 2016 Index: estimate..insurance

estimate 51:5 **Etran** 62:6,9

evening 28:11,14 40:1,15,24

EXAMINATION 5:4

excuse 55:10 **exhibit** 8:9,12,14 9:18 18:3 33:16 45:6 48:12 60:1

exhibits 5:21 8:11,24 62:7,10

expansion

51:14,17,23 52:5,7, 19,24 53:6,9,20 54:6 55:15,18 56:11,14,18,25 57:2

experience 14:18

experiences 44:20

experts 43:7

explain 11:4 14:1 23:5 35:5

exposed 37:14, 16 57:4

F

factor 49:20

fail 61:1

failed 60:8

fair 7:8

familiar 18:21

February 22:16

Fedexed 5:17,21

feet 24:17 25:25 26:4 42:2,5

filed 18:25

find 33:13

fine 48:6 62:10

fitting 23:15 24:12

fittings 46:16,20, 24 53:16,20,24,25 54:1

fix 28:18,22 29:22 33:6 37:4,14 40:16, 21 41:5,13 58:2

fixed 11:17,19 38:19

flip 45:6 flow 31:9

follow 7:15 27:21

foot 25:10

foreseeable 60:11

form 21:24 31:20

Fort 14:14

found 12:10,11, 14,16 36:16 39:12 47:23 48:1 50:24

friends 16:13 50:11,16

front 48:13

G

garage 23:9,10, 19,22,23 24:4 31:5, 9,11,16,19 32:18,20 33:22 36:10,16 39:22 44:23 45:13 57:1,3,5

gave 7:17

general 16:15,17 20:13 32:22 33:23 50:14,15

generally 6:25 8:8 11:11,14 15:6 56:12

give 7:6 61:24 **good** 5:6,24 7:17 25:20,21 goods 45:12,22 Google 12:9,14

government

graduate 13:8 graduation

13:12

Great 9:6 41:3

grow 12:22

guess 19:11 39:16

Н

H-O-F-F-E-P-A-

I-R 15:22

happen 33:13 34:2 40:3 50:22

happened 30:11 35:23 38:18 43:4 50:23

hard 55:25

hardware 53:1,3

he'll 62:4

head 7:12

hear 5:13,19,24 6:1 39:24

heard 16:8 17:9 20:25 28:11 39:22 40:2 54:16

hearing 42:17

heater 23:12,18 24:5,9,12,15,16 29:1,13 31:13 33:22 34:10,13,15,20,22, 25 35:1,3,12 36:17 37:15,18 40:11,13 44:6 46:6,9,10,12 52:8,10,11,17,21 56:8,10,14,18 57:1 58:19,22,25 59:1,4,

height 42:1

high 13:8

hire 21:11 31:22 32:7

hired 21:7,12

Hoffepauir

15:20,23 16:5,20 21:16,19

hole 23:16 26:9 36:4 42:14

home 17:6,11,14, 17,18,23,25 18:1 19:7 20:13 21:1,8 22:21 23:18 26:18, 19,20,21,24 27:9,16 28:13 29:7,24 30:14 31:1 32:13 33:24 36:23 37:11 38:11, 19 40:5 44:10 45:25 46:1,2,17,21,24 49:20,24 50:8 51:16 55:21 57:10 58:25 59:14

homebuilder

15:24,25 59:18 61:18

hose 23:12

hot 33:21 34:10,12 56:5,10

hours 41:2 house 11:17

14:22,23 15:1,4,6, 18 16:4,6,9,11,19, 21,24 17:20 19:14 20:2,6,7,9 21:13,18, 20,21 22:2,5,6,12, 16,18 23:1 26:14 27:7,10,12 30:24 40:2,10 43:2,12 45:4 49:16,18 50:11,25 51:6,13 55:2,4,10 56:1,5 57:14 58:12,15,17 59:7,15,23 60:15,17 61:4,7,15,19

household 45:12.21

houses 59:17

- 1

identified 8:9

identify 8:7

inches 25:6

included 22:4 49:10

Incorporated's

incur 44:19

individual 16:2

information

19:3,6,10,11,20 20:8,11 48:23 49:10.17

inherent 60:11

inlet 52:9

inside 23:25 37:15 40:9,10 41:12

inspect 58:22

install 21:8 55:14

installation

19:17 22:14 47:21

installed 17:6 19:8 20:1,18,21 21:4 22:12 29:23 37:13 46:21 49:24 50:5 51:21 53:6,19 54:8 55:12,15,17,

installers 20:5

18,20 59:22

instance 42:14 52:8 57:16 58:10 60:25 61:10

instruct 14:7

instructor 13:25

instructs 7:2

insulation 44:11 45:11.18

insurance 32:14 46:2

December 20, 2016 Index: interested..object

interested 9:19 lines 56:5 marking 30:6 necessarily L 54:23 interject 6:24 link 28:10 master 31:11,12 needed 45:13 32:3,11,18 36:13 internet 12:5 list 20:5,14 22:3 40:13 large 18:4 47:9 needing 28:2 listed 10:1 material 16:12 lawsuit 6:22 Interrogatories negative 50:12 live 6:7 38:7 10:10 11:2.21.23 8:18,19 negotiating 12:12 46:23 50:19 lived 6:11 14:22 materials 61:17 interrogatory 21:19 51:10 17:25 matter 5:8 48:13 neighborhood **Lawton** 14:15 lives 22:21 investigate **means** 14:1 59:18 lawver 9:9 11:24 28:17 29:22 33:5 located 17:14 members 11:8 **NIBCO** 5:7 8:17 12:1 19:12 23:18 52:7 involved 11:20 60:9 10:6.10 11:2.12.15 leads 23:24 location 6:12 12:9,10 17:9 20:22, mentioned 8:5 involving 50:17 leak 22:25 23:6 14:12 25 21:4 29:19,23 39:12 **Island** 17:15 32:25 33:1,3 39:1,5, 24:7,23 25:7,18,24 long 6:11 14:10 mentions 45:10 7 43:2,9,11 47:3,9, 26:4,13 29:10 **issue** 33:6 longer 14:6 16,20 50:20 53:12 30:11,24 31:7 message 47:24 issued 60:19,25 60:8,11,17,19,23, 32:17,24 33:6,12 looked 29:11 24,25 61:6,9 **met** 6:19 61:2 34:8,11,24 35:19, 47:15 21,23 36:7,9,15,16, **NIBCO's** 47:12 **issues** 11:22 16:9 metal 54:3,4 lowest 25:4 21 37:5.14 38:12. 17:22 18:1 46:24 night 17:1 mid 45:2 51:20 20,25 39:10,15,18, **items** 31:24 21 40:8,16 41:5,13 52:3.4 **nod** 7:12 M 32:10,20,21 42:8,13,21 43:8 middle 24:3 36:1 **note** 27:23 44:8 45:2,12 46:4, 42:10 13 made 9:9 11:12 **notes** 59:11 61:25 J military 13:2,3,13 **leaked** 31:4,5 main 26:14 34:13 **notice** 8:13 9:19 mind 48:4 32:2 36:22 57:21 Jacuzzi 58:14 noticed 11:23 leaking 29:18 mine 16:13 maintenance 23:9,12 **Jesse** 15:20,23 31:8 35:18 41:22 14:2.8 minutes 48:6 21:16,18 November leaks 17:22 33:20. **make** 6:18 7:5 **moment** 59:10 12:21 23:4,6 24:8 **job** 13:22,24 23 34:2 39:15 40:25 29:9 32:14,16 46:1 25:24 26:5 28:10 41:5 43:11 44:17,20 monitors 54:23 join 13:3 50:21 31:8 32:17,24 45:2 45:3,24 46:17 50:16 51:3 57:13 month 12:20 Joseph 12:3 **makes** 7:22 51:2 57:7,12 59:13 **number** 27:13,18 **months** 55:16 making 45:25 learn 16:24 30:5 34:24 39:16,21 K **morning** 5:6,24 man 41:10 learned 29:23 40:16 41:5,14 43:8 6:19 44:8 45:2 46:4 60:8 49:9 manual 47:21 **kind** 16:5,20 17:19 **moved** 22:16 **left** 52:13.20 numbered 18:10 manufactured 21:21 24:3 32:19 47:3 35:12 48:1 49:17 Numbers 8:9 left-hand 23:23 N 50:21.22 manufactures legal 47:4 knew 19:15,20 10:11 0 length 29:1,15 **named** 20:17 manufacturing knowledge 35:7 41:18,25 42:4 names 9:21 10:1 49:13 11:18 oath 48:10 letter 5:21 8:12 61:18 **map** 44:3 **Kyle** 6:24 9:3 object 6:24 21:24 licensed 21:7 **Navy** 13:6,16,18 25:21 48:3 61:22 31:20 marked 8:9 22:9 14:4,7 62:8

December 20, 2016 Index: Objection..recall

Objection 47:4
Objections 8:17

objects 6:25

observe 30:4 34:1,11 36:6 39:1 42:13 43:1

observed 23:5,6 24:8 26:5 30:2,3 33:20 34:9 35:18,22 36:15,20 39:20

observing 26:12 39:4

occasionally 27:22

occupant 15:4

occur 57:25

occurred 11:16 22:25 25:18 34:4 57:12

October 49:5

Oklahoma 6:8 13:1 17:12 18:1 19:7 60:16

older 17:16,18

online 27:17 47:23

open 23:23 44:9 56:22 57:3

opportunity 7:7

original 17:8 29:18 35:7 41:16 44:18 55:10 58:17 59:1

originally 46:21 59:7

out-of-pocket

output 54:24 owned 17:11,25

Р

PAC 10:14

paid 44:18 58:5 paperwork

11:25

paragraph

19:16 20:20,22 21:6,9 22:14,23,24 33:17 39:14 45:9 60:5

paragraphs 18:10,21,25 19:3,5

part 12:23 21:22 30:14 40:10 48:19 57:4 60:7 61:17

patch 44:2

pause 18:19 59:12 62:1

pay 30:15,20 37:22,25 42:20 58:3,4,6

Pennsylvania

people 20:8 person 20:17 21:12

personally 10:4

PEX 10:14,16,17 16:8,12,14,24 20:22 24:11,19 25:5,13 26:1 29:1,19 37:13 38:7 43:15 47:16 49:24 50:11,12,17 53:10,12 59:21 60:11,17,20,24 61:1,6

phone 5:10 7:5, 11 35:6

physically 56:18 picked 27:11

piece 24:19

pipe 17:1,7 23:14 24:14,18,19 25:1,2, 3,5,13,25 26:1,9 28:24,25 29:4,6,11, 12,15,18,19,23 30:6,7,10 31:9 32:25 34:12,14,17,

19,21,25 35:7,8,10, 18 36:3,17 37:6,7, 20 38:5,7,18 39:1, 22,25 41:15,18,19, 22 42:4,14,15 43:2, 14,17 46:5,8,9,11, 13 61:14

pipes 12:11

piping 10:17,18, 20,22 12:9 16:14,25 35:16 36:1 37:13 47:2 53:9,14,19,24

place 54:5

Plaintiff 8:16 20:20 21:6 33:20,22

plaintiffs 10:1,3

plan 14:25 plastic 54:3

platform 35:12 37:18 52:18

plumber 26:17 28:17,20,22 29:3, 10,21 30:1,16,22 33:5 36:24 37:4 38:19,23 40:15,20 41:4,8,13 42:20 43:14,15,22 44:19 46:18 53:2 57:13 58:2,10 61:18,19

plumbing 10:11 14:20 15:14,17 16:5,8,9,21 17:19, 22 18:1 19:8,14,17 20:1,3,18,21 21:8, 12 22:4,8,11,12,15 23:1 45:3 49:18,20, 23 50:4,7,25 51:13, 16,24 54:8,13 56:9 57:8,9 58:11 59:22

point 24:22 25:4, 7,9 26:8 35:25 39:8 41:16 42:11 45:1 46:13,14 50:17

points 25:5

policy 26:24 27:2, 6,10,13,18 32:14 46:2

positive 50:12 premarked 8:23 prematurely 61:1

preparation 48:20

prepare 9:8 preparing 9:15 pressure 54:20, 24,25

pressurereducing 54:14 pretty 27:11 previous 16:11

previously 20:24 42:24

primary 22:19 problem 11:19 18:12 28:18,23 29:11,22 33:7 59:15

problems 12:11 process 11:18 products 21:4 47:12 60:12,17,20, 24 61:6

professional 21:7 22:9

property 38:11 44:22

provide 16:16 60:9

provided 19:2 20:8 22:5 49:17 60:23 61:17

providing 48:22

pull 48:12 Pulled 32:4

purchase 49:20

52:23

purchased 49:25 50:2 purchasing 49:16

push 54:1

put 11:24 19:14,15 29:12 37:19 43:25 44:14 51:19,23 61:9,13

putative 11:2

Q

question 6:25 7:1,6,15,23 8:1 25:20,22 32:6

questions 5:9 6:21 7:20 18:16 61:23 62:3

quick 48:4 **quote** 21:20

R

Rachel 5:6 28:1 radar 13:25 14:2,7 raining 23:8

ran 57:23 range 26:8

Ray 5:1 6:4 8:13, 16 18:9 21:25 47:6

read 62:4

ready 9:10 18:17 23:7

realize 7:4

reason 42:23 57:13

recall 12:13,19 17:2 20:17 25:8 30:18 31:24 32:21 33:9 34:5,14 36:3 37:4,7 41:7,9,22 42:1,8,17 44:22,24 45:22 47:19,25 48:22

December 20, 2016 Index: recirculation..taking

IXAT OWIII
recircula 55:5
recognia 48:15
recollec 22:25
record 9 8:10,22 4
records
Red 6:10 34:18 37:
refer 18:
reference
referring
33:15 60:
refresh
related
44:20 46:
relation
remain
rememb 25:11 30: 35:20 38: 40:23 42: 44:21 47: 51:25 52:
remove
43:2,5
renewin
rent 31:2
repainti

recirculation 55:5	re _l
recognize 9:25 48:15	38 re
recollection 22:25	re
record 5:22 6:3 8:10,22 48:7,9	1
records 20:14	re 5:
Red 6:10 29:20 34:18 37:9 41:24	re
refer 18:3 59:25	re:
reference 9:18	12
referring 26:22 33:15 60:7	res
refresh 22:24	20
related 30:10	res
44:20 46:13 58:11 relation 52:8	re : 8:
remain 49:12	res
remember 12:16 25:11 30:9,12 33:8 35:20 38:17,24	res
40:23 42:9,12,16 44:21 47:11,14 51:25 52:2,25 58:1	re:
removed 42:4 43:2,5	re ^v
renewing 27:7	18
rent 31:21 32:6	rin
repainting 44:1	ris
repair 17:8 43:22 44:9	Ro ru
repaired 43:23 50:23	ru
rephrase 7:21	ru
replace 44:13 45:21 50:24	
replaced 28:24 29:1,11,17 37:6	S-
41:15,18,25 43:14	Sa

45:11,13 46:17 51:1

	S
	runs 15:15
	running 4
<u>)</u>	run 16:1
	Rock 6:10
	rings 53:23 risks 60:11
	18:24 48:18,
	reviewed
	review 18:
	retained 3
	45:11 resume 48
6	result 32:1
	rest 31:1
	responses 8:17 48:13,2 10,12
	response
	residentia 20:21 33:21
	residence
	12:4,5,8 19:2 12 39:7,11 4
	research
	5:7 request 28
	represent
	represent
	reporter 6
	replumb 5
	29:4 37:7,10 38:7 45:17
	replaceme

6

Sauder's 12:16 lacement 4 37:7,10,19 lumb 51:6 **orter** 6:19 resent 10:9 resenting 37:6 uest 28:2 earch 11:23 51:10 4,5,8 19:24 33:3, 39:7,11 47:9 self**idence** 22:19 53:25 idential **ponse** 28:16 14 ponses 7:11 7 48:13.24 49:9. **ult** 32:11 38:12 58:22 ume 48:5 **ained** 38:23 14:6 iew 18:14.15 iewed 9:12 24 48:18,19 **gs** 53:23 ning 46:4 17 M-I-N-K-E-Y

39:12 43:7 47:24 **SiC** 15:22 scanned 62:10 **side** 23:23 30:6 school 13:8 31:13 44:4.6 52:9 56:20 57:18 search 12:14 sign 62:4 searches 12:9 secondary 46:9 **section** 18:16 seeking 50:20 connection send 28:2 36:24 sentence 45:10, separates 40:12 **serve** 13:5 **served** 13:18 service 13:2 serviced 58:19 **serving** 13:15 set 8:18 54:24 59:6 **settings** 59:3,6,8 sewer 57:18,20, 21.22 58:3 **shake** 7:12 SHAMBERG 9:5 21:24 25:17 28:1,8 31:20 47:4 48:6 61:24 62:2,5,9 Sharkbite 53:15, Shield 26:20.25 27:10 30:15 36:23 40:6 46:1 **spot** 30:20 **show** 7:13

signature 49:2 Sill 14:14 similar 14:3 59:15 **single** 15:9 16:1 Sir 11:1 18:3.7.14. 21 45:6 48:10 49:2 **Sminkey** 5:1,6, 24 6:4,7,14 8:5,13 9:7 12:22 18:9 21:7 25:23 27:21 28:3,9 33:20 48:9 49:15 50:19 59:13,25 60:9 Sminkey's 8:16 20:21 33:22 **soaked** 45:11 softener 55:7,9, 10,12,17,20,23 56:4,8,19,24 57:2 solely 47:2 **sort** 21:20 sound 7:7.17.24 sounded 23:8 span 42:7 43:5,6 speak 8:3 speaking 6:25 11:14 specifically 23:3,15 **spell** 6:5 15:21 **split** 23:14 36:4,5 42:14 **spoke** 61:19

shy 14:11

standard 62:9 standing 23:22 **stands** 24:17 **Star** 20:3 21:11 22:4,8,11 50:4,7 **start** 6:2 19:5 25:3 34:7 started 11:25 26:16 **state** 6:3 Stephens 5:5,7, 23 8:19 9:3,6,7 22:3 25:20,22 28:5,9 31:21 47:8 48:3,8 59:10,13 61:22 62:4,6 **store** 53:1,3 stored 45:12 stories 15:7 **story** 15:9 straight 35:19 54:5 19:17 **sued** 11:2 suggest 52:1 summer 52:4

stuff 38:14 50:22 substantially sufficient 60:10 summary 32:22 supplies 10:11 sworn 5:2 **system** 19:17 20:21 21:8 22:15 30:8 46:7 51:24 54:13 55:5,24 56:2,

Т

9 57:9,10 58:11

taking 6:20 59:10

spring 52:4

December 20, 2016 Index: talk..yesterday

talk 7:3 talked 9:9 44:17 45:16

talking 16:13,14, 15,17 50:13

tall 24:17 42:2

tank 51:14,17,23 52:5,7,19,24 53:6,9, 21 54:6 55:5,15,18 56:11,15,19,25 57:2

teach 14:2

ten 14:11 48:6

term 10:14,18,19,

terms 10:13

testified 5:2

thing 7:10,19 8:1 10:19,23

things 5:11 7:3 24:3 27:20 28:4 31:18 58:23

thought 33:7

throw 31:17,25 32:10,20 38:16 44:23,24 45:22

thrown 45:23

time 5:25 7:4 17:5, 7 25:18,24 29:21 31:6 33:3 34:2,15 36:6 37:1 38:1 39:24 41:10 51:15 52:14 55:14 56:16 60:15,22

times 6:24

today 5:9,12,15 6:18 7:12 8:7 9:10, 14,19 10:13 13:21 19:21 27:22

today's 8:24 9:8 10:23

told 16:5 33:9

top 9:21,22 18:9 24:9,18 35:7 41:17 46:11

total 25:16

totally 39:17

tough 8:20

town 55:25

transcript 7:14

transcripts 6:22

travel 31:10 truck 57:23

true 22:16 24:5 49:12 60:16 61:4

truth 5:2

tub 58:15

tubing 10:20,22 12:10 20:22 21:4 24:11 29:1 37:10 39:7 43:15 47:2 49:24 50:11,17 61:1

turn 18:8 60:2

type 35:23

U

ultimately 30:23 underground

15:15

underneath

34:12 35:9,16 36:17 37:17

understand

7:16,20,22,23 8:2 10:10,22 11:1,3,6, 11 32:16 34:23 35:11 48:10 54:22

understanding

8:25 9:4 10:16 15:14 29:10 37:20 38:4 54:19

V

vacuum 31:17 valve 54:14,20 verbal 7:11

verification
49:2

verified 49:8

view 50:12

Virginia 17:15,20

visible 25:12,13

W

Walked 23:9

wall 25:14 26:2 29:16,17 31:13 34:21 37:15 40:12 41:13,19,20 42:1 43:23 44:8,14 46:5 56:15,19,20,22

walls 15:16

Waltz 17:15

wanted 19:5 27:24

warning 60:19, 24,25 61:2,9,13

warnings 60:10

warranty 26:18, 19,21 28:13 30:15 31:1 32:13 45:25

47:13,16,17

water 23:6,11,12, 16,18 24:5,9,12,15, 16 26:9,16 28:25 29:12 31:4,8,13,17 32:2,11,17 33:20,

21,22 34:13,15,19, 21,25 35:1,2,12 36:10,12,15,17,22

37:15,18 39:15,23 40:11,12,20 44:6

45:12 46:6,9,12 52:8,10,11,16,17,21

55:7,9,10,12,17,20, 23,25 56:1,4,8,10,

14,17,19 57:1,2

58:19,22,25 59:1,4, 6

waterline 34:10

website 47:9 48:1 61:10

websites 12:13

week 20:25 33:19

34:1

wet 23:10 44:11

wife 22:22 23:7

winding 23:7

wooden 35:12 37:17 52:18

word 32:25 39:1

work 13:20 28:3 30:23 50:8 54:9

worked 20:9 46:18

57:9 58:10

working 28:5

wrecked 42:5

writing 28:3

Υ

year 12:20 13:10 27:7,11

years 14:11

yesterday 9:9